

Up 1 pneu 23
55 Victoria Road
Kentish Town N.W.
4 Sept 1866

My Dear Miss

I had yours
on Saturday evening
with all its enclosed
for which many thanks,
are due and tendered
I had also the pleasure
unexpectedly, of thanks
from Mr. Protheroe for
your thoughtful

I had a note from Mr. Leszynski also on Sat. They seem to be enjoying Hastings very much and will not say when they are to return - I hope.

When you got settled down there you felt little of the effects of the long journey

and that your work goes on all right

Your health, not the manner of Mr. & Miss Reid, that should be the great consideration

The God of Providence has given you such health as He knows is best for you and its a trust which it becomes your duty to use in what-ever way you know is best for it. If you were sure that it would not be improved by the change then every consideration would be in favour of your remaining only the want of Mr. Porcher's sisterly sympathy

as Mr & Miss Reid
 have been so thoughtful
 for you in past time
 I will be disappointed
 if they will not weigh
 and consider the matter
 and assist you in
 what is best

Praying that you
 may be guided and
 blessed from above
 I am

Your aff. Uncle
 W. Austin

55 Victoria Road
Kentish Town N.W.
5th Apr^l 1866

My Dear Niece

I guessed that
before Easter you would
be well employed and I
am very glad to learn
your great success and
I hope that your lessons
and examples will befit
to rub off all bad effects
from the praise bestowed.
There is much of the natural
vapour of the human heart
that is easily expanded

And if not moderated
 might make us too Balloon
 like But if rightly used
 may keep us striving
 after advancement in ^{wisdom} ^{and} ^{virtue}
 I ask after your health
 and you leave me to
 judge of that by your
 work and success in it
 And then Fishman like,
 answer by the question
 returned - I have been
 as well as usual during
 the winter But since the
 East winds began to blow
 with any thing like North
 Keenness I have coughed
 a little

And sometimes more than
 a little, but am better
 I will enquire if I can
 do anything to forward
 the election of the young
 lad When you furnish
 me with the names of
 the subscribers who vote
 and I hope he may
 be successful - The names
 of those who recommended
 and sustain the case
 should be influential
 1st - Syzygshi and the
 son have been suffering
 from the effects of cold
 for some time she is much

better but he is rather
 poorly as his attack
 came later - Tommy
 had been poorly before
 that - An account has
 come of the safe arrival
 of the ship that brother
 John sailed in But
 there is not time for
 letters - The news gives
 some relief to anxiety
 Thank God - Mrs Sedgwick
 and the children send
 their love she is leaving
 on Monday for six week
 absence with Lady Caldon
 your aff^l friend
 Wm Weston

23 p 1 p 23
2 Herbert Street
Queen's Crescent
Barnstaple Ex. 11.
23 Dec 1876

My Dear Miss Mason

I will have no
reason to complain of your
slowness in reply when
I have left your note from
Amble side in Aug. - remain
unacknowledged until now
My only excuse is that it
came here while I was
in Ireland and as you
did not say how long you

were likely to remain at
that address I did not
reply I was very pleased
to hear from yourself and
the friends that are so
justly dear to you and
if you will just favour
me with the same now it
will be very pleasing to
me and I will tell me
you are not quite angry
with me for my neglect
Mr. Leszynski is well and
so is her daughter her
son is in New Mexico and

Campbell's line is true then
"Distance lends enchantment to the
view" For he writes home a
really beautiful letter about
once a week. He is much
better and hopes to return
after the winter at our n^o 2
We are progressing for
Mr. Thornberry added a
daughter & son to the family
The week from Thursday past
and all three seem to be
doing well My own head
I am thankful to say
is not painful for the

23p4pneu23
My Strongest brother and
My Strongest sister were
both rather ill some time
past I have reason to
conclude they are both
much better All other
members and branches are
as well as usual I
Praise God that my health
keeps good I will be very
pleased to hear the same
of yourself & friends

I am
Yours very kindly
J. A. Houston

You have most likely forgotten the
conversations wh. gives me
an excuse for writing to you.

I have just been reading
an article on "government"
written by you, which showing
how much interest you
take in education has
now again wish to
draw your attention to
a scheme which to my
mind promises to meet
every difficulty with
wh. the subject is beset.

I do wish I might interest
you so far that you w^d be
induced to study the subject
for yourself & in due time
write upon it so as to gain
general attention.

The reform I propose sh^d
begin at the foot of the ladder
& work upwards. & I fear
you will say that is precisely
what you see no need for
as Nat. Schools. Those at the
foot are in so satisfactory a
state that you only wish is that
better classes wh. either went
to these same schools or were
otherwise as well taught.

dis. where practical training might be obtained. to be seconded by a few months at a training school.

Afterwards, the work of training is both for nat. & private schools as well as for gov. in families w'd take an imp. place in the training of a sch.

Such pupil the sch. to choose with ref. to their homes.

Shd be educated with all usual accom.

Yours Nat. schools w'd train a race of thoroughly taught governesses. who w'd in the meantime be giving valuable help. Also, a corp. class of chr. w'd be attracted as workers or otherwise. with the view of being hereafter trained as trs. & these w'd help to give tone to the sch.

The remaining diff. is a money one - high stipends shd be offered in these schools as well make the prof. fairly paying.

also. that this method is to be communicated only by means of constant personal influence.

There are four great diff. to be met - at the outset.

First - the displacing of existing trs. - On this head it is to be considered that the change w'd be gradual. Other emp. w'd open. While on the other hand, the country w'd profit by the most valuable kind of labour, a kind of ~~at present to be at a dist.~~ - that of cultivated & ed. people.

esp. a new & real sphere of usefulness w'd be opened for women.

Second - the social standing of such trs. shd be recognized. This w'd hardly be a diff. as most managers w'd be only too glad to have gentle pleasant minded fellow workers.

Then, such trs. shd be as thoroughly trained & prepared to work as hard as does the present body. Such training w'd be at first the great diff. Each of H. M. Inspectors might perhaps indicate a few sch. in his

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If the desired result is instructive
as extended & as thorough as
the time in school & the power
of the chm will allow. then
I do think the schools are
efficient. in most cases
they really do send out
sharp-witted fairly well-schooled
boys & girls. But they may
do more. Sch. influence
is while it lasts almost
unlimited. This influence
is in the hands of the present
powers. & by far, chiefly by
clergymen & others who w. naturally
use their power in favour of law
& order. And yet - the "discrepancies"
of class & class increase. Clever
Nat. Sch. boys use their wts in
arguments for support of the 'International'
& altogether rampant more & more
wrong every year. If culture
were imparted in these schools
so that the chm left them with
the habit of veneration, trust
& gracefulness